



*building communities together*

## **2021 Business Plan Quesnel Regional Airport Contribution Service (1114)**

*Darron Campbell, Manager of Community Services*

***Working in partnership with communities large and small to offer local, sub-regional, and regional services to ensure that the Cariboo Chilcotin is a socially, economically, and environmentally desirable region.***

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### **Department/Function Services**

The Quesnel Regional Airport contribution function was established through Bylaw No. 5151 in 2018 following a referendum of the participating electoral areas. The purpose of the function is to provide a contribution to the City of Quesnel to support operation of the Quesnel Regional Airport in recognition that the residents and businesses across the North Cariboo receive economic and social benefits from the airport.

The funding is provided through a three-year contribution agreement with the City (2019-2021). The agreement is limited to direct operating costs at the airport and does not include funding for capital projects at this time.

To enable input into airport operations, the City has established an Airport Advisory Committee with representation from elected officials from the Regional District and the City as well as key airport stakeholders.

Participants in the service are Electoral Areas A, B, C and I, which are taxed based on the assessed value of land and improvements. The maximum requisition is the greater of \$90,000 or \$0.0682/\$1,000 of assessment.

### **Business Plan Goals, Rationale & Strategies**

#### **2021 Goal**

**Goal:** Review the airport support contribution agreement with the City of Quesnel.

**Rationale:** The initial three-year contribution agreement between the City and the Regional District expires at the end of 2021 and will be reviewed to determine if updates or amendments are needed for renewal in 2022 and forward.

**Strategy:** Staff will review the terms of the agreement and bring forward a proposed renewal to the Northern Rural Directors' Caucus and Regional District Board.

### **Overall Financial Impact**

The 2021 requisition is the same as the 2020 requisition at \$70,000.

The 2020 requisition was reduced by \$6,159 from the 2019 requisition to \$70,000. The 2019 requisition was raised so that repayment of feasibility funds could be made for referendum costs to establish the new function.

The requisition is maintained at \$70,000 annually over the five-year financial plan.

### **Significant Issues & Trends**

The COVID-19 situation had major negative effects on airport revenues with the loss of passenger fees from scheduled service of Central Mountain Air. Other aspects of airport business were also generally lower but rebounded well after the initial travel restrictions and advisories due to the pandemic.

The Cariboo Regional District is a signatory on the Province of BC/UBCM Climate Action Charter and has committed to continuing work towards carbon neutrality in respect of corporate operations.

### **Measuring Previous Years Performance**

**Goal:** Participate in the semi-annual meetings of the airport advisory committee.

- Partially completed. The spring meeting for the advisory committee was canceled due to the COVID-19 situation; however, the fall meeting took place as planned in October.